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SUBJ: NPG - POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS TEAM (PIT) MEETING OF NEW
TECHNOLOGY STUDY

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SUMMARY: THE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS TEAM (PIT) OF THE NPG
TECHNOLOGY STUDY HELD ITS SECOND MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 22-23 AT
NATO HQS. STUDY PARTICIPANTS BASED DISCUSSIONS ON INFORMAL
PAPERS CIRCULATED BY FRG CHAIRMAN OF THE PIT STUDY AND FOCUSSED
ON GENERAL POLITICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA BY WHICH TO ASSESS NEW
TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS. PIT TENTATIVELY AGREED TO SCHEDULE
NEXT MEETING FOR MID-JANUARY OR LATE FEBRUARY, BY WHICH TIME
SUBSTANTIVE INPUTS FROM THE MILITARY IMPLICATIONS TEAM COULD BE
AVAILABLE. END SUMMARY.

1. THE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS TEAM (PIT) OF THE NPG TECHNOLOGY
STUDY MET IN BRUSSELS SEPTEMBER 22-23, ATTENDED BY
REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL NPG MEMBERS, THE IMS AND SHAPE.
THE MEETING REVIEWED AND DISCUSSED SEVERAL TALKING PAPERS
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PREPARED BY THE FRG IN ITS CAPACITY AS PIT CHAIRMAN
(VON SANDRART).

2. TALKING PAPER ON POLITICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA. THE

FRG PAPER ARGUED THAT CERTAIN "INVARIABLE" POLITICAL OBJECTIVES EXISTED FOR NATO AGAINST WHICH THE INFLUENCE OF NEW TECHNOLOGY SHOULD BE MEASURED. PARTICULAR ATTENTION WAS GIVEN TO:

A. DETERRENCE BY DENIAL.- THE PAPER CONTENDED THAT NEW TECHNOLOGY MIGHT LEAD TO EMPHASIS ON "DETERRENCE BY DENIAL" (EXCESSIVE CONCENTRATION ON WAR-FIGHTING) WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED AS WEAKENING DETERRENCE ACHIEVED FROM THE THREAT OF ESCALATION. IT WAS POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS DID NOT IMPLY A SHIFT IN STRATEGY AND THAT IT WAS AS IMPORTANT TO STRENGTHEN CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE AS TO UPGRADE THE NUCLEAR DETERRENT.

B. SHARED RISK. THE FRG ARGUED THAT NO ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN WHICH PLACED DISPROPORTIONATE "RISK" OF EUROPEAN DEFENSE ON ONE MEMBER AND THAT IMPROPERLY APPLIED NEW TECHNOLOGY WHICH DID THIS COULD UNDERMINE ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY. THE UK REP (SHAW) NOTED THAT ALL ALLIANCE MEMBERS SHARE RISK AND THAT POPULATION LOSSES AND DAMAGE INVARIABLY WERE DISPROPORTIONATE IN ANY BATTLEFIELD COUNTRY. WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS THAT NATO NOT ADOPT ANY POLICY THAT WOULD ALLOW AN AGGRESSOR TO ASSUME THERE WERE LEVELS OF MILITARY ACTION BEYOND WHICH THE ALLIANCE WOULD NOT ESCALATE.

3. SUBJECT TO FURTHER REGIEW, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENTED BY THE PIT CHAIRMAN AS A SUMMARY OF BASIC POLITICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA:

A. MAINTENANCE OF AN INTERLOCKED NATO-TRIAD COUPLED WITH US STRATEGIC FORCES.

B. POLITICAL CONTROL OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS' EMPLOYMENT, INCLUDING CONTROL OF ESCALATION.

C. SPECTRUM OF FLEXIBLE NUCLEAR EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN DELIBERATE ESCALATION OR REPSONSE TO ENEMY NUCLEAR ACTION.

D. BALANCED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DENAIAL, THREAT AND RETALIATORY FUNCTIONS AND OBJECTIVES.

E. WEAPONS AND OPTIONS MINIMIZING COLLATERAL DAMAGE.

F. ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY BY IDENTITY OF INTERESTS.

(1) EQUAL READINESS TO INCUR RISKS AND MEANINGFUL
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SACRIFICES.

(2) ADEQUATE VOICE, PARTICIPATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

(3) SHARED DEFENSE EXPENDITURES.

G. MAINTENANCE OF MILITARY BALANCE, IF POSSIBLE AT LOWER FORCE LEVELS.

4. THE PIT ALSO DECIDED THAT A SUBSIDIARY FRG PAPER LISTING EXTRACTS FROM MAJOR NATO POLICY GUIDELINES SHOULD CONSIST OF FULL DIRECT QUOTATIONS (POSSIBLY AS AN ANNEX TO ANY FINAL STUDY) RATHER THAN AS PARAPHRASES.

5. POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS DERIVING FROM TECHNOLOGY. ANALYSIS OF THIS FRG TALKING PAPER WAS LIMITED BY THE ABSENCE OF ANY

FORMAL INPUT FROM THE MILITARY IMPLICATIONS TEAM (MIT). DISCUSSION CONCENTRATED ON THE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE TREND TOWARD PRECISION DELIVERY OF LOWER YIELD NUCLEAR WEAPONS THAT THE PAPER IDENTIFIED AS A KEY ASPECT OF NEW TECHNOLOGY. THE BELGIAN DELEGATE (DUBUISSON) AHRGUED THAT THE AVAILABILITY OF PRECISION GUIDED LOW YIELD WEAPONS WOULD EASE THE POLITICAL DECISION TO EMPLOY NUCLEAR WEAPONS BEFORE NATO FORCES WERE EXHAUSTED, THUS TENDING TO LOWER THE NUCLEAR THRESHOLD. US DELEGATION NOTED THAT NATO DOCTRINE ALREADY PREMISES NUCLEAR USE BEFORE CNVENTIONAL EXHAUSTION AND THAT THE NUCLEAR DECISION -- GIVEN POLITICAL WILL -- APPEARS MORE A FUNCTION OF THE PROGRESS OF THE CONVENTIONAL BATTLE RATHER THAN THE STRUCTURE OF AVAILABLE NUCLEAR FORCES.

6. PIT CHAIRMAN ASKED STUDY PARTICIPANTS TO PROVIDE WRITTENT NATIONAL COMMENTS ON THE TALKING PAPERS BY OCTOBER 31 AND NOTED THAT THESE WOULD BE INCORPORATED INTO A SUBSEUQNT DRAFT. THE NEXT PIT MEETING WAS TENTATIVELY SET FOR BRUSSELS IN MID-JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY 1976, ALTHOUGH IT WAS AGREED THAT THE MEETING WAS CONTINGENT UPON RECEIPT OF A MIT SUBMISSION. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE IS REP OBSERVED THAT FOR PRESENTATION TO MINISTERS T THE SPRING 1976 NPG MEETING, THE FULL STUDY WOULD HAVE TO BE COMPLETED BY LATE MARCH. PROJECTED DELAYS, HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT THIS INFORMAL SCHEDULE FOR MINISTERIAL PRESENTATION MOST LIKELY WILL REQUIRE ALTERATION.BRUC

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